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JPRS L/10477

22 April 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 18/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AUSTRALIA

CIVIL LIBERTIES COUNCIL CONCERNED OVER MARIJUANA RAIDS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Feb 82 p 2

[Article by Elizabeth Johnston]

[Text]

THE Queensland Council for Civil Liberties is concerned at the increasing number of arrests involving small amounts of marijuana.

The spokesman on police powers, Mr Noel Nunan, said yesterday there was also concern over the harassment of motorcycle riders.

"The police are alienating a whole generation with the drug laws," Mr Nunan said.

"The number of people being picked up for being in possession of small amounts of drugs — less than 25gm — is staggering.

"These people are mostly under 25 but when they reach 30 or 35 and develop different values they can't get involved in public groups or run for parliament because they have a criminal conviction."

Mr Nunan said in one morning as a duty solicitor he had handled eight guilty pleas involv-

ing the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

"When you consider that is the experience of one solicitor in one morning you get an indication of how many people are being arrested," he said.

Mr Nunan said many of the arrests followed raids on private premises which were a result of tip-offs from neighbors or estranged girlfriends.

He said motorcycle riders were also a favorite target for police.

Sometimes they were pulled up, given what he called a "heavy time" and then given a speeding ticket.

"Often they are pulled over and goaded into being defiant," Mr Nunan said.

"These aren't bikies.

"They are young people who can't afford a car or don't need one because they have no family to transport."

CSO: 5300/7538

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA BURNING--NSW Drug Squad detectives supervised the burning yesterday of 3000 marijuana plants with an estimated street value of almost \$2 million. The plants, many more than 2m high, had been growing in dense forest north of Newcastle. Acting on information they received from a telephone call, 14 police raided a property near Gloucester earlier this week. In a clearing surrounded by dense forest they found a nursery, drying room and irrigation equipment used to cultivate the marijuana plants. Police said most plants had been growing for up to three months and the largest specimens would have fetched about \$500 each. No arrests have been made, but police are looking for a man. He is described as about 45, 187 cm tall, of solid build with light brown hair. [Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Feb 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/7538

BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM CROP SUBSTITUTION COURSE--Lashio, 15 March--Multiplier Course No 2/82 on cultivation of cash crops to replace opium poppy of the Peasants Asiayone and Course No 8 on animal husbandry and basic veterinary science were opened at a ceremony at the special high-yield maize cultivation station of the Agriculture Corporation here this morning. Township Party Unit Chairman U San Shwe, Township People's Council Secretary U San Yu and Township Peasants Asiayone Chairman U Sang Tun Hla spoke on the occasion. The course on cultivation of cash crops is being attended by 70 trainees from 14 village-tracts in Nampaung region and the animal husbandry and basic veterinary science course is being attended by 14 trainees.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLES DAILY in English 22 Mar 82 p 4]

OPIUM PLANTS DESTROYED--Rangoon, 26 March--Under the arrangement made by the Central Narcotics Control Board, a total of 10,539 acres of opium poppy were destroyed under Operation Ngayepan Phase II since 19 December 1981. The opium poppy destroyed by the Tatmadaw, People's Police Force and the Security Units in cooperation with local people under the leadership of the Party Unit and People's Councils, included 3,099 acres in eastern part of Shan State and 6,714 acres in northern part of Shan State. The Tatmadaw, People's Police Force and the working people are continuing to destroy the remaining opium poppy plantations, it is learnt.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 27 Mar 82 p 5]

OPIUM FIELDS DESTROYED--Rangoon, Burma, March 15 (AP)--The Burmese government destroyed 336 hectares (830 acres) of opium fields in eastern Burma, seized 981 kilos (2,163 pounds) of raw opium, 14 kilos (31 pounds) of heroin and 66 kilos (146 pounds) of marijuana between July 1 and Dec. 31 of last year, a report submitted to the Parliament Monday said. Burma is a key producer of illicit opium from which heroin is refined, and in recent years the government has stepped up its anti-narcotics activities. The same report said the government seized 14 Thai trawlers poaching in its waters and 45 Burmese vessels engaged in smuggling. The report said 85 Thai crew members were arrested during the six-month period last year. [Rangoon THE CHINA POST in English 17 Mar 82 p 6]

CSO: 5300/4930

HONG KONG

AMENDMENT TO NARCOTICS LAW PERMITS FULL BODY SEARCH

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] A Bill permitting a search of body cavities of a suspected drug courier with or without consent was gazetted yesterday.

The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill 1982 also empowers the detention of the suspect until the examination is carried out.

The search must be by a Government doctor at the request of a police officer or Customs and Excise officer and the doctor is protected from civil and criminal liabilities concerning human rights violations.

All public officers acting under the main ordinance are similarly protected from liability, the Bill states.

A Narcotics Division spokesman said there is a growing trend in drug smuggling whereby "considerable" quantities of drugs are concealed in body cavities.

Since January last year, 31 people have been arrested at Kai Tak airport alone with drugs concealed inside their bodies.

The Bill also provides a new definition of "manufacturing" to cover all cases of the treatment of a dangerous drug.

And it provides for prosecution in cases where only small quantities of dangerous drugs, not measurable or in themselves usable, are found.

Under the present definition, people cannot be prosecuted for manufacturing where there has not been "a process of chemical modification of another substance or substances into a dangerous drug."

Therefore those engaged in "diluting" or "cutting" heroin base or its salts face lesser charges like possession.

The definition of "manufacture" of dangerous drugs will be broadened to include making, adulterating, purifying, mixing, separating or otherwise treating a dangerous drug if the Bill becomes law.

In recent years, drug traffickers have been importing increasing amounts of heroin base into Hongkong because of its higher value but lower bulk than opium or morphine, the spokesman said.

"Another factor behind the prevalence of trafficking in heroin base is that the preparation of the most commonly used salt of heroin from it is a quicker, simpler and cleaner process than the cumbersome, smelly and often dangerous method of manufacturing heroin from morphine using acetylating substances," he said.

Last year, the police and Customs and Excise officers seized 85.4 kg of heroin base compared to 38.3 kgs in 1980.

The Bill makes it clear that any quantities of dangerous drugs, however small, are regarded as dangerous drugs for the purposes of the ordinance.

Prosecution can thus be instituted in cases involving minute quantities which are not measurable or usable.

"Whether prosecution action should be taken where only traces of drugs are found will of course still depend on the circumstances of individual cases," the spokesman said.

CSO: 5320/9124

HONG KONG

THREE MALAYSIANS JAILED 9 YEARS FOR SMUGGLING MORPHINE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Mar 82 p 19

[Text] Three Malaysian nationals, Lim Ah Cheh, Kee Moh Din and Bong Ah Hin, were yesterday each sentenced to nine years' imprisonment for smuggling \$2 million worth of morphine from Bangkok to Hongkong.

They pleaded guilty to conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs.

Crown counsel C.G. Jackson told Mr Justice Barnes in the High Court that Lim was handed over to the Airport Investigation Unit after landing at Kai Tak from Bangkok on August 6 when an immigration officer found his name was on the stop-watch list.

Asked if he had anything to declare, Lim produced three packets containing 1,104.3 grams of esters of morphine — one from his abdomen and two strapped to his legs.

Questioned further, Lim said he was travelling with two other Malaysian nationals, both staying at a Tsimshatsui hotel.

Acting on this information, customs officers, after questioning two other men, seized 2,167.1 grams of esters of morphine from a suitcase in a room at the hotel.

Interviewed under caution, Lim said he had agreed to smuggle the drugs for a reward of M\$3,000 (about HK\$7,500) plus an agreement to be let off a debt incurred while betting on horses.

He was recruited in Malaysia by a man named Ko Lo Tsat, who brought the other two defendants to his house.

They then went to Singapore airport where each was given an air ticket to Bangkok.

The drugs were handed over to Lim, in the presence of the two other defendants, in a hotel room in Bangkok.

CSO: 5320/9124

HONG KONG

MARIJUANA HAUL FROM PHILIPPINES LARGEST SINCE 1975

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 20 Mar 82 pp 1, 20

[Article by Donald Cheung]

[Text]

Customs men have uncovered a Philippines-based drug syndicate following the recent seizure of 16 kg of marijuana at Kai Tak airport.

The drugs, in unclaimed air cargo, would have fetched \$1.6 million on the streets.

Described as "the biggest haul of marijuana" since 1975, customs officials said the drugs were believed to be for local consumption.

They said it would have been distributed mainly to Filipinos, Europeans and Chinese students who have studied abroad, through local bars and discos.

The 32 packets of marijuana, each weighing half a kilo, were found in a four-foot-long metal cylinder, two feet in diameter.

It is the biggest seizure here of drugs originating from the Philippines. Cannabis has previously been smuggled into Hongkong mainly from Thailand, India and Pakistan.

Although a few packets were marked "Bangkok Gold... Product of Thailand," customs officers said they believed it was all from the Philippines.

"A lot of marijuana is grown in the northern part of the Philippines," a customs spokesman said.

They believed the parcels had been deliberately labelled

to confuse the drug's origin because Thai marijuana is of better quality and fetches a higher price.

"Marijuana grown in Thailand, known as 'Buddha stick,' is regarded as the best in the world," said Senior Superintendent K.S. Tong of the Customs Investigation Bureau.

Customs men believe four similar shipments have already been smuggled into Hongkong in the same way by this syndicate over the past two years.

However, they are believed to have been much smaller, only four to five kilos each.

"Maybe they used those as trial shipments and when they found that the drugs could get in successfully, they decided to have a real go," one customs officer said.

The disguised drug shipment arrived on February 7 and a man turned up at Kai Tak to claim it.

He paid the freight charge, but failed to return to collect it after he was told by airline officials that customs officers wanted to examine it.

Alerted by this, customs officers drilled two holes in the cylinder on March 5 and found the drugs inside, wrapped in silver foil.

Customs men told a press conference yesterday that they usually examine inbound cargo "on a selective basis."

"In this case we found that the cargo was consigned to an individual rather than a company and also that the cargo was roughly made," said Assistant Superintendent David Tong.

"This prompted us to examine the cargo thoroughly."

The current street-value of cannabis is about \$100 a gram. The price has risen about 50 per cent in a year.

Officers said marijuana is not as widely used in Hongkong as other drugs, such as heroin, opium and opium base.

"This soft drug is only for more well-off people for use in wild parties," one officer said.

He added he thought demand was growing with the increasing Filipino population here.

No arrest has been made so far but customs officers are looking for three Filipino men, including the one who tried to collect the shipment, 29-year-old Alfredo Borja.

The three suspects are believed to have used false passports to travel to Hongkong. Customs authorities in the Philippines were contacted last week for help in the investigation.

CSO: 5320/9124

HONG KONG

NEW HEROIN RING SMASHED AFTER THAI COURIER ARRESTED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] Alert customs officers have smashed a newly-formed drug syndicate when they seized one kilogram of heroin base at Kai Tak airport.

The drug was found in the false top and bottom of a suitcase said to belong to a 36-year-old Thai courier when he arrived from Bangkok on Thursday afternoon.

The seizure would have been worth \$650,000 on the retail market.

Customs officers used the courier as "bait" and shadowed him to a hotel in Middle Road, Tsimshatsui, where he made contact with a Thai woman in the hotel lobby.

A Chinese man — a farmer from Kam Tin, in the New Territories — later arrived at the hotel and received the suitcase.

The two men and the woman were then arrested and detained for further inquiries.

A sister of the Thai woman and another man were also arrested in follow-up raids in Kowloon and the New Territories early yesterday morning.

They were released on \$2,000 bail each pending further investigations.

Customs sources said last night that they were still hunting for the syndicate's mastermind, identified as a Chiu Chow man who had been previously investigated by officers of the Customs Investigations Bureau.

The suspects are expected to be charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking.

Police sources said that the Chiu Chow syndicate was formed recently to take advantage of the shortage of drugs and the prevailing high prices.

The farmer had allegedly made contact with the Thai courier whom he came to know while visiting Bangkok recently, sources said.

Because of the recent seizures of huge drug shipments by customs officers, the street prices of No 3 heroin have shot up almost 100 per cent over the past three weeks.

CSO: 5320/9124

HONG KONG

AMERICAN GETS 2 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT FOR IMPORTING HEROIN

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Mar 82 p 10

[Text]

A deaf-mute American was yesterday sentenced to two years' imprisonment by Judge O'Dea at Kowloon District Court after pleading guilty to importing heroin which was "in transit" from New Delhi to Los Angeles.

Edwin Otto White (46) was taken unconscious from an aircraft when it made a stopover at Kai Tak airport en route to the United States on February 11, the court was told.

He was admitted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital where three plastic packages containing drugs were found in his right sock.

Two days later he regained consciousness and consented to an operation during which 43 more packages of drugs, including one torn one, were removed from his gastro-intestinal tract.

The court was told that a total of 175.96 grams of a drugs mixture containing 162 grams of salts of ester of morphine were in the packages.

Passing sentence, Judge O'Dea said that he had taken into consideration White's plea of guilty, his physical disability and his co-operation with the police.

The judge added that he had also considered the difference in White's case with those of local people who had families to support and were convicted of similar offences.

It was said that White has a wife, who is also deaf and mute, and three daughters.

He still has to support the two younger daughters.

White's elder daughter and her husband had accompanied him on his journey from New Delhi to Los Angeles and had since returned to the United States.

White was interviewed in hospital by officers of the Narcotics Bureau on February 17 after which he appeared at South Kowloon Court on a charge of possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

His case was transferred to Kowloon District Court on February 26.

Yesterday, the Crown charged him with "being a person by whom a dangerous drug was imported in transit," and offered no evidence against him on the charge of possession.

CSO: 5320/9124

INDONESIA

TWO FOREIGN WOMEN ARRESTED FOR MARIJUANA TRAFFICKING

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 12 Feb 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] An Italian woman and an American woman were arrested last Monday in Bali for narcotics trafficking, a MERDEKA correspondent learned from Police Brigadier Soeharjono, commander of the Principal Narcotics Detective Unit.

According to Soeharjono, Maria Rosaria Criscones, born in Rome on 2 May 1948, had, on three occasions, sold drugs brought from Bangkok via Hong Kong, Singapore and Jakarta for marketing in Den Pasar, Bali.

Maria, who holds passport no. 732877, was arrested by members of the Principal Narcotics Detective Unit on behalf of the Australian Federal Police. An Interpol report had revealed that a suitcase full of marijuana was being transported via Garuda flight GA 965. The case was owned by a passenger named Maria, who had disembarked in Ngurai Rai Airport, Den Pasar.

The Detective Unit alerted Bali Police Regional Command to watch Garuda. About 3 February, a woman claimed to Garuda that she had lost a bag. Her name was Maria, and she was Italian.

The trap was set. The bag was turned over to Garuda by the police. Maria was informed, and on Sunday at 1300, she appeared at the airport to claim the bag she had reported as lost. The Police arrested her.

Soeharjono told MERDEKA that 100 ganja stalks weighing 400 grams were concealed in the bag's lining. The ganja had been brought from Bangkok via Hong Kong, Singapore and Jakarta, and she was able to slip away with her bag to board a domestic Garuda flight for Den Pasar.

She also brought a quantity of brown sugar, stored in a doll. According to Police Major Rusdi, who arrested her, the brown sugar was to later be dissolved in water, and injected, like heroin.

Maria was not alone in her narcotics dealing. She worked with a young American woman, who stayed at the Golden Village, Kuta. Claire Ritter, passport no. a.2754870, born in New York on 24 October 1947, had traveled to Indonesia five times on a tourist visa. From her, police seized 15

ganja stalks weighing 15 grams. She claimed the ganja was only for her own use. But Maria confessed that the two had sold drugs to young people in Bali.

Responding to a MEMDEKA query, Police Major Rusdi, chief of the IK Sattama Narcotics Detective Unit, said the Thai sticks they were selling is used for smoking, and is of higher quality than other ganja.

The two foreign nationals are now being held by the Police Regional Command, Bali, for further investigation and prosecution.

9197

CSO: 5300/8320

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS DESTROYED--The Committee to Eradicate Narcotics (PPN), composed of elements of the Departments of Health and Justice, burned a quantity of morphine and opium in a Jakarta crematorium. The drugs included 2.524 kg of morphine and 49.665 kg of opium. The PPN is tasked with destroying confiscated narcotics. Representatives from the navy and police attended the burning. [Excerpt] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 27 Feb 82 p 2] 9197

CSO: 5300/8320

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

ANTI-DRUG COORDINATING BODY--Malaysia and Singapore have set up a coordinating body that will enable drug enforcing officers from either side to operate across their common border. This was stated by the director of the Central Narcotics Bureau in Singapore today. He said the formation of the border drug committee followed serious concern in the two countries over the possible influx of drugs after a recent bumper opium harvest in the golden triangle. He said direct telephone links had been established between the bureau and the Malaysian police in all state capitals of peninsular Malaysia in conjunction with the setting up of the committee. Malaysia and Singapore had been linked by a joint drug liaison committee for the past 2 years. [BK090202 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Apr 82 BK]

CSO: 5300/5704

PAKISTAN

MINISTER DISCUSSES ERADICATION PROGRAM WITH UNITED STATES OFFICIALS

Karachi DAWN in English 21 Mar 82 p 6

[Text] Washington, March 20--Pakistan's Interior Minister, Mr Mahmoud Haroon went to the hill again on Friday and exchanged views with the influential Senator from Texas, Chairman John Towe of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

His visit on Thursday was to the House Foreign Affairs Committee where, among others, he met Congressman Pritchard, who has been to Pakistan several times and has steadily supported the Pakistan case.

His discussions on Friday with the US Acting Secretary of State Mr Walter Stoessel, covered a wide canvas but concentrated more specifically on mutual collaboration on the eradication of drug — addiction, which is causing deep concern to nations worldwide.

Mr Mahmoud Haroon informed Secretary Stoessel that Pakistan was just as anxious as USA to save its youth from the global spread of the narcotic epidemic. Islamabad was determined to curb the evil not only as a national duty, but also as a religious obligation for, Islam forbade all that causes intoxication. To that end, Pakistan was co-operating not only with the United States but also with Norway, Sweden and other countries threatened by the problem.

Inhiring Factors

At the same time, the Pakistan Interior Minister pointed to certain inhibiting factors, such as the location of most poppy-fields and plants in the far-flung tribal areas which for centuries had remained outside the pale of normal law, and unless tribesmen, cultivating poppy, could be tempted into acceptable alternatives, the problem could not be checked. Nevertheless, a major effort was under way not only to offer them a lucrative crop-substitution but also a comprehensive socio-economic infrastructure development plan.

This, together with the crack-down in the settled areas had already begun to pay dividends, he added. Two years ago, the poppy crop amounted to 800 tons: It has since been reduced to 100 tons and the campaign has been further intensified.

US Aid Programme

According to PPI Special Correspondent, Ghani Erabi, the United States has proposed a fiscal 1982 international narcotics control assistance programme of 2.9 million dollars to be used as under.

(1.35 million dollars to help with design and implementation of a development project, intended to support the ban imposed by Islamabad on opium production by providing farmers with alternative income sources 675,000 dollars do the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board for training and equipment support for enforcement officers, 100,000 dollars for research in drug abuse in Pakistan and for training in treatment and rehabilitation, 300,000 for general programme development and support costs and 475,000 dollars for assistance in enforcement programmes for the port of Karachi.

Prohibition Order

The Congressional staff study mission that visited Pakistan last fall, in its report has said: "The Government of Pakistan appears genuinely committed to suppressing the illicit production and export of narcotics from Pakistan. It is also concerned about increasing levels of drug abuse within Pakistani society and how to address this problem effectively. Until 1979 opium production was regulated but not illegal (opium poppies were cultivated legally as an important cash crop under the British.

--President Zia-ul-Haq issued the Prohibition (enforcement of Hadd) Order of February 1979 which essentially codified and applied the strictures of Islamic law to illegal narcotics. The Order prohibits the possession production, transfer and receipt of narcotics and prescribes very severe penalties. This was further strengthened by an outright ban on the cultivation of opium plants.

Crop-Substitution Plan

At the same time, adds the report, Pakistan recognises that enforcement alone, will not solve the narcotics problem and with UN assistance, it has been carrying out a pilot crop-substitution project providing small farmers subsidised farm inputs in return for their abandoning poppy cultivation. But the project has not been a complete success. The Pakistan Government has come to the conclusion that it must combine the crop-substitution with an entire infrastructure of socio-economic development in target areas."

But it must be recognised, "the Congressional report concludes, "that undertaking comprehensive development effort of this nature is a complex, lengthy and expensive proposition".

CSO: 5300/5693

PAKISTAN

DRUG TRAFFICKING DISCUSSED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 19 Mar 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Trafficking in Drug"]

[Text] The four-day international Islamic conference which will begin in the Holy city of Medina from March 23 to discuss threadbare the dreaded menace of increasing use of narcotics all over the world indicates the seriousness of the problem. The conference will be attended by the Ulema, thinkers and specialists from all over the world who will ponder over the problem from the Islamic point of view and suggest ways to put down the illicit trade. Since the end of the Second World War, when trafficking in illicit drugs suddenly increased unceasing efforts by various Governments have continued unabated without any checking the racket. That is an indicator of the skill in organisation and management of the unholy trade. It also highlights the inadequacy of the existing laws and methods so far employed to combat the menace. We hope the conference would give special thought to this aspect and come out with a plan effective enough to meet the challenge.

Addiction to narcotics has now assumed alarming proportions especially in the West. But in this part of the world including Pakistan, the picture is no less dismal. A drug addict is practically lost as a useful member of the society. Once in the hypnotic grip of the potion, there is no easy way to wean him away from it. The increasing supply of the drugs such as heroin, opium, charas and other forms of them along with a corresponding rise in addicts is a danger signal to the civilised world. Pakistan in that respect seems to be more in danger as the huge consignments of heroin, opium and charas caught in the last few months shows. The value of the contraband drugs seized here runs into billions of rupees.

The situation has rightly created an alarm and the Government of Pakistan is taking all possible measures to limit the area and cultivation of opium. The United Nations is also making its help available in this connection. The police and customs authorities in Pakistan have done a remarkably good job in seizing huge amount of the drugs and it must have saved lakhs or millions of souls in countries for which the drugs were intended. But there is no way of knowing if the consignments seized were not merely a fraction of the stuff that evaded detection.

So far, the law-enforcing authorities have succeeded in catching only the couriers or unearthing a gang of people engaged in manufacturing heroin etc. But the real bosses remain practically untouched and probably unknown. Moreover, the punishment awarded to people engaged in the traffick has in no way deterred others from joining the trade. The Medina conference must examine the problem from this particular angle. It would be worthwhile examining how China eliminated drug addiction from the country or how Iran is combating the menace. It may appear too drastic a suggestion but how can the menace be otherwise stamped out? The profits in the unholy trade are too enormous to discourage those involved in it by merely putting them behind the bars for a few years or confiscating the contraband consignments. The USA and other European Governments have failed to stamp out the menace because the gangs always manage to find new couriers and new routes to send the stuff to the intended markets.

In recent years drug addiction has assumed alarming proportions in Pakistan also, especially in certain parts of Baluchistan and NWFP. But the addicts are not confined to those areas only. In fact there is no city or small town of the country without its addicts. The situation in other Asian and African countries is not much better.

The real problem is not to stop trafficking in illicit drugs or rehabilitating the addicts, although they are no less important. The most urgent need and really productive, is to put down the production of the narcotics and catch the real bosses of the trade. It must be realised that the international ramifications of this trade with all their well-knit organisation and led by them ruthlessly, cannot be eradicated by local or national measures, neither can they be combated with the conventional laws and methods. One of the most active organisers of the drug traffick, the Mafia has remained unbroken even though the most efficient American machinery is geared to fight it. That shows the strength of the traffickers, and also proves that much more than ordinary methods are needed to end the menace. We hope the conference at Medina will thoroughly examine this aspect of the problem and come out with appropriate suggestions to root out the menace.

CSO: 5300/5693

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN ISLAMABAD--The antidrug squad of the customs police at Islamabad airport seized heroin worth 25 million rupees on the international market on 5 April. The heroin was packed in concealed compartments in two suitcases bound for an overseas destination. [GF111440 Lahore JANG in Urdu 5 Apr 82 p 1]

HEROIN SMUGGLING BID FOILED--The Customs Drug Enforcement Cell (DEC) arrested a Sri Lankan national on Monday for attempting to smuggle out refined heroin powder weighing three kilograms at Karachi airport on Monday. Packed in 18 packets the heroin worth Rs. 3 million was concealed in the false bottom of a suitcase belonging to Ponniah Milwaganam who was intercepted and arrested by the DEC sleuths minutes before his departure to Amsterdam by a foreign airline. Investigations revealed that his accomplice Babu had left for Holland three days ago leaving the contraband with Milwaganam. Interpol has been informed of Babu's movement while a search is in progress for local contacts of the accused persons. [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Mar 82 p 10]

SMUGGLER FINED--Mr Mushtaq Kazimi, Deputy Collector of Airport Customs, imposed a penalty of Rs. three lakhs on German girl Josette Erika Wawrzinek while adjudicating the case of 'possession' of two kilograms of heroin. The passport of the German girl would remain with the Customs pending payment of the fine. She was earlier fined Rs. 100,000 by the Special Judge (Customs) Mr Ishtiaq Husain where she pleaded guilty to the charge of smuggling. This was paid by her father who had arrived from Germany. Adjudication proceedings are still pending against the other accused in the case viz Mohammad Raza Mobasharfard, an Iranian student, caught with the girl on Oct. 27, 1981, with 2.25 kilos of heroin from his suitcase concealed in the false bottom, another Iranian national M. Raza Taqavi (who is said to have married Erika after she embraced Islam), and a third Iranian Ghulam Husain Abidzada. Mobasharfard was convicted for smuggling of 2.25 kilos of heroin by the court for six months R.I. and a fine of Rs. one lakh, against which he has filed a mercy petition. [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Mar 82 p 18]

INTERPOL-FIA COLLABORATION--The International Police have joined FIA's Passport Cell in investigating the drug trafficking case in which a number of former airline employees were involved. The Federal Police seized about eight kilograms of heroine powder from them. Six dismissed PIA employees and a serving PIA official was involved in the case. The FIA seized the passport of accused Ghafoor Butt, the brother-in-law of a local police officer from a local travel agent. Meanwhile, search for Nadir Ali Khan Durrani and one Stephen has started in London by the Interpol. The police are searching the other links in the national airline and also the businessman who financed the whole racket. Police have raided several places late on Monday night to find the absconding accused. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Mar 82 p 10]

CSO: 5300/5703

PHILIPPINES

STIFFER PENALTIES FOR DRUG USERS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 22 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] Stiffer penalties are now being imposed by the government to curb the upward trend of drug abuse.

This was disclosed today by Master Sgt. Norberto Alvarado of the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit (CANU) before members of the Cebu Association of City and Municipal Public Information Officers (CAOCAMPIO) during its monthly meeting at the Office of Media Affairs (OMA).

Alvarado, who was one of two CANU speakers, said that violation of the anti-drug abuse law may be in the form of sales, administration, delivery, acting as broker, transmission, transportation and giving away of drugs classified as regulated and prohibited by the Dangerous Drugs Board.

The CANU official also said that tougher penalties such as the increase of prison terms from six to 12 years have been imposed on persons caught possessing prohibited or regulated drugs.

According to Alvarado, cultivation of marijuana plants as source of prohibited drugs is punishable under Section 9, Article 2 of Republic Act 6425.

In the same seminar, Sgt. Deterio Sanchez of CANU discussed the distinguishing marks apparent among drug dependents and the rehabilitation and treatment of the drug addicts at the Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Network (DARN) in Taguig, Metro Manila.

In his talk, he urged the public information officers to disseminate the information to the barangay residents in their area.

Sanchez also briefed the CAOCAMPIO members on the sign and symptoms of withdrawal syndrome, which he said would always follow after the body of drug dependents would reach to such a high point where it could tolerate the presence of the drugs.

The CANU official pointed out that some cough syrups taken as substitute drugs could not be confiscated and would not be a ground for arresting the drug user because these are never include in the list of the regulated and prohibited drugs.

CSO: 5300/5699

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

WARNING ON HEROIN TRAFFIC--The dangerous drugs board warned yesterday against a threatening increase of heroin traffic throughout the country because of the opium bumper crop in Indochina's golden triangle. The board noted that heroin traffic is already picking up in Manila, Cebu and Angeles City. The country is not a lucrative market for heroin, but it is being used as a transit point in heroin international traffic; 267 grams of highly-addictive heroin have been seized from 3 carriers since last year. The heroin was being taken to the United States from either Pakistan or Thailand when intercepted in the country. The dangerous drugs board also noted an increase in marijuana cultivation, despite an intensified enforcement of the amended dangerous drugs law which provides stiffer penalties for offenders. In view of this situation, dangerous drugs board executive director (Manuel Sumit) urged stepped-up preventive measures against drug abuse. [Text]
[HK100133 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 9 Apr 82]

CSO: 5300/5704

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

GANJA PLANTATION RAIDED--A few officers attached to the Wildlife Department, Buttala, along with a Police Sergeant attached to the Moneragala Police have been successful in raiding a ganja chena 2 and 1/2 acres in extent. The chena had been detected with the game reserve of the Ruhunu Park at a place called Kimbulagala. The ganja plants 2 and 1/2 feet in height and numbering 6,000 were subsequently destroyed by the authorities. [Text] [Colombo THE ISLAND in English 15 Mar 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/5701

BAHAMAS

POLITICAL FIGURE REFUSES TO BLAME U.S. FOR DRUG PROBLEM

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Gladstone Thurston]

[Excerpts] When international drug runners make a mockery of Bahamas law enforcement agencies, "don't blame the United States. The fault is to be found right here with us," warned Deputy Speaker of the House of Assembly Henry Bowen.

"I say, when our young men and young women become hooked on illegal drugs," Mr Bowen said, "that is not an American problem. It is a Bahamian problem and it is up to us to solve it."

Mr Bowen, the Member of Parliament for West Grand Bahama and Bimini, was addressing the Nassau Jaycees last night. The first part of his speech dealt with the agenda of the House and how it works.

Those who occupy the seats of power in this country, he said, must be prepared to grab the bull by the horns and "face up to our responsibilities. When we find chaos in the Ministry of Education, don't tell me it's the UBP's fault. The UBP has been dead and buried for about 15 years.

"And when international drug runners make a mockery of our law enforcement agencies don't blame the United States. The fault is to be found right here with us."

Too many Bahamians, he said, are living in sub-standard housing. Too many children, he said, are learning their ABC's in overcrowded, ill-equipped classrooms.

He saw the drug problem as "the single most ruinous element in our society today." A few years ago, he recalled, it could be said with a great deal of truth that Bahamians were only trading in dope, and in certain circles that was considered chic and smart.

"Today, the picture has changed radically," Mr Bowen said. "We have expanded our involvement from mere traders and handlers and we have now become users as well.

"I say, when our young men and young women become hooked on illegal drugs, that is not an American problem. It is a Bahamian problem and it is up to us to solve it."

CSO: 5300/7539

22

BERMUDA

MINISTER CLAIMS YOUTH FALLING PREY TO DRUG PUSHERS

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 13 Mar 82 pp 1, 5

[Text] Bermuda's youngsters with time on their hands are easy prey for drug-pushers, The House of Assembly was told yesterday.

P.L.P. Shadow Minister of Community Affairs Mr. Walter Brangman told M.P.s that drug dealers had spread their web to the parishes and were not restricting their illicit trade to Hamilton as most people thought. Mr. Brangman was stressing the need for the Ministry of Community Affairs to concentrate some of its efforts on coordinating activities for young people who otherwise might be drawn into drugs because they had nothing else to do.

The House was considering the coming year's budget for the department.

Mr. Brangman said:

"Community Affairs must address itself to this problem otherwise it becomes a farce."

I would like to see it coordinate the activities of existing organisations like churches, P.T.A.s and parents and citizens and other clubs to provide activities for children after school."

The shadow minister said many young people spent their time idly hanging around where they became involved with the sort of person who sold drugs.

"They get innocently caught up with drug pushers who find them easy prey," Mr. Brangman said.

He claimed that drug sellers were now going into neighbourhoods where the Police least expected to find them.

Mr. Brangman also welcomed new measures on noise pollution, which he felt many Bermudians would be pleased with.

But he had some criticism of the way the Community Services Department had organised the "Song for Bermuda" contest, which he said has displayed "a tremendous lack of creativity".

He urged the speedy setting up of the proposed Human Rights Commission, and then went on to insist that non-Bermudians who came to the Island to work should learn the local courtesies.

"They should adapt to our customs and pleasantries--that way racial confrontations of any sort can usually be avoided," Mr. Brangman said.

Mr. Calvin Smith, P.L.P., expressed his disappointment that the P.L.P. would have little or no say in the membership of the new Human Rights Commission.

"I find that odd, because we on this side mainly represent the black population and I would have thought it fair to assume that most cases to come before the Commission would be of a racial nature," Mr. Smith said. He hoped the Commission would not always side with loyal U.B.P. members and supporters.

And Mr. Smith regretted that Parish Vestries were no longer operating. These, he said, could have acted as a forum where grievances could be heard without going to the more formal Commission.

Meetings called by the Pembroke Hamilton Club in Warwick had led to a new understanding between groups previously in conflict.

"Vestries would be an earlier stage for dialogue than the Commission," Mr. Smith said.

Mr. Lancelot Swan, Parliamentary Secretary for Community Affairs, introduced the debate on estimates for the Ministry.

On Community Services he said the budget estimates were designed to increase and improve community relations. The estimate of \$400,750 was an increase of more than 10 percent on last year.

"This should improve and add new programmes," he said.

The Consumer Affairs bureau would continue to give its services to the public and in conjunction with the two radio stations put out weekly broadcasts with advice on consumer affairs.

The budget had also allocated \$67,000 for Heritage Week celebrations and a further \$51,940 for the Human Rights Commission.

The names of members of the Commission would be announced soon.

The Bermuda Small Business Development Corporation has been granted no money in the Budget estimates. Mr. Swan said the purpose of the Corporation, at least initially, was not to loan out money. It would, however, help small businesses raise bank loans on the provision of certain information from the firms.

CSO: 5300/7539

BERMUDA

TWO CONVICTED IN HEROIN SMUGGLING GIVEN 15-YEAR TERMS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 9 Mar 82 p 4

[Text]

HAMILTON, BERMUDA, MARCH 5, (CANA) - Two men found guilty of operating an international drug trafficking racket have each been jailed for 15 years here.

Bermudian Keith Burrows, 36, an unemployed father of three, and Alex Seriki, 24, a British-born Nigerian who was working in London as a telecommunications engineer, were convicted of conspiring in London, Jamaica and Bermuda to import heroin, and of importing heroin into Bermuda between December 1980 and February 1981.

The heavy sentences brought tears to the eyes of Burrows' girlfriend, with whom he lived, and former Miss World Gina Swainson, who were both in court.

Both defendants had pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Among the prosecution witnesses during the week-long trial in supreme court was Ali Kilci, a Turkish-born fashion designer, who is now serving a ten-year sentence here after admitting importing heroin into Bermuda.

Attorney-General Saul Froomkin, prosecuting, told the court how Burrows and another person not before the court flew to London in December 1980 to find a heroin supply source for Bermuda. They found that source through Seriki in the person of Kilci, he said.

Following that conspiracy, 12 to 13 ounces of heroin was obtained and mailed to Bermuda, said Mr Froomkin. Arrangements were made for further shipments to Bermuda between Seriki and the other person not before the court.

In January 1981, Seriki and Kilci came to Bermuda, bringing a sample of heroin obtained from a Jamaican known as "Donny Brown."

"The accused Burrows ordered more heroin from Kilci. Kilci and Seriki went to Jamaica to obtain another four-and-half ounces of 52 per cent pure heroin," said Mr Froomkin.

Kilci was arrested at the airport here when he returned from Jamaica, and co-operated with narcotics squad detectives, he added.

CSO: 5300/7539

BRAZIL

CAMPINAS POLICE ESTABLISH SYSTEM TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Mar 82 p 22

[Text] Campinas--Throughout the entire sectional police quarters which includes 14 towns, the Campinas police force is establishing a new strict system to combat all drug trafficking and drug addicts apprehended in possession of drugs. District chiefs of police known to be severe and well acquainted with the sector are being selected as team leaders to prevent the increase of trafficking, although Campinas is known as a marihuana distribution center for South Minas Gerais and several Sao Paulo regions. Within only 4 days of enforcing the new system, the Campinas district police headquarters is showing results never before achieved: 30 in custody in the red-light district and the "dregs of society," 6 small street dealers seized with a total of 2 kg of marihuana and deadly night shade in the main trafficking areas.

In Amandio Malheiros Lopes' opinion, the district chief of police, who is enforcing this strict suppression, the results should be immediate: "The return to classes was a factor which deeply worried us, for as a rule, it is at this time that the traffickers are most active."

This, however, was not the predominating factor, said chief of police Valter Otavio Fario Monteiro, 20 years on the police force and a specialist in the war on drugs and head of the new team: "Three years ago two district headquarters engaged in the work, today a specific sector is needed for this, for besides marihuana, consumed by the lower class outer fringe, there are also problems with cocaine used by people with high purchasing power."

For the Campinas police, the main problem, even greater than the lack of inspectors (there are only 8), is the dearth of data regarding traffickers. Police delegate Valter Monteiro has therefore made appeals for "informed citizens to telephone me, even anonymously, to pass along whatever they know.

"This device," he insisted, "is necessary because investigation, in the cocaine area, calls for considerable information from people who have experience and are knowledgeable and informed."

The Gambling, Addiction and Narcotics Police Headquarters has a report on 12 main traffickers in the Campinas area. Of these, only 2, Silvio Gordinho and Claudio Teodoro Ferreira Pestana, are serving time. The others, although also denounced for involvement with killers, remain at large, but working in the areas according to reports which reached the police.

According to police delegate Amando Malheiros Lopes, the narcotics network has sharply increased in the past decade: 10 years ago, mention of drugs was unheard of in the hinterland. Even in Campinas, there were few cases. The dissemination spread from the large to the small urban areas, rapidly developing in modern society."

The cities which present most problems, the delegate stressed, are Campinas, Americana, Itapira and Mogi-Mirim.

8870

CSO: 5300/2224

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

RECORD MARIHUANA PLANTING BUST--Recife--At the end of the week, government bureau of security police and military police seized 8.5 tons of marihuana --17,000 feet--on the Aboboreira farm in Ouricuri Municipio--some 619 kilometers west of the capital--belonging to Joaquim Dias da Silva who managed to escape. According to Fernando Ribeiro, head of the department of judiciary police, this was the largest seizure of marihuana planting in the past 10 years. On the Aboboreira Farm, the planted land was estimated at 500 million cruzeiros. Between traffickers and planters, they seized six people. One hundred and twenty men and several trucks and jeeps transported the marihuana seized to Ouricuri city where it was burned on the public square in the presence of authorities and the population. The police believe that this seizure will enable them to reach other farms in the area. The marihuana was ready for harvesting for use and would be distributed to various Brazilian regions, mainly Sao Paulo and in the cities of Salvador and Recife, where the most buyers are found. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Mar 82 p 14] 8870

CREATION OF REGIONAL DRUG COUNCILS--Brasilia--The secretary general of the Ministry of Justice, Arthur Castillo, who chairs the Federal Council of Narcotics (COFEN), yesterday said he will ask the states secretaries of justice to hasten the establishment of regional councils for the repression of drugs. Work is underway similar to that being done in the United States and Mexico to suppress production centers by destroying marihuana planting areas and disrupting cocaine distribution operations. Castillo reported that the regional councils will operate as "executive branches of COFEN policy." At present, only in Rio de Janeiro is a council in operation similar to the Federal Council of Narcotics. Now in Sao Paulo, Piaui and Rio Grande do Sul the existing organizations lack development. Castillo explained that marihuana is the drug most used in the country "because of the ease with which the lower classes can obtain it," adding that from January to August 1981, the Federal Police seized 229 tons of the product. They seized 90 kg of cocaine during that period. He affirmed that there is no question of countenancing use of marihuana: Those who uphold this idea base it on an anachronistic thesis. A recent UN study proved that it is harmful to the organism and the step toward dependence on other drugs. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Feb 82 p 6] 8870

COCAINE RING DISBANDED IN AMSTERDAM--Yesterday the Dutch police reported in Amsterdam that the week before they had seized 9 foreigners, among whom were 3 Brazilians and 2 Bolivians (whose names they did not disclose), and with this they believe they have disrupted a cocaine traffic ring originating in South America. Although they have found only a small amount of the drug, the police spokesman said they believed that a drug ring had already brought many kilos of cocaine into Holland and England. Also according to the spokesman, the traffickers were discovered when, on Thursday, a 31-year-old Israeli woman exchanged 300,000 florins (about 16.5 million cruzeiros) in an Amsterdam bank and, as she appeared very nervous, detectives followed her home, where she was arrested together with a Brazilian man and woman, 2 Bolivians and a Swiss, who had 5 grams of cocaine and 600,000 florins. Later, another Brazilian and 2 Englishmen were seized with 35 grams of drugs. [Text] [Sao Paulo 0 ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Feb 82 p 16] 8870

CSO: 5300/2224

MEXICO

ANTIDRUG COORDINATOR DESCRIBES ZONAL PILOT PLAN

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 19 Mar 82 pp 1, 10

[Text] A scrupulous inspection is being conducted throughout all of Zone 06 of the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, as part of the pilot plan that the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has implemented for the purpose of ascertaining the actual status of the work being done in the effort undertaken by that office to examine this type of activity.

In making the foregoing statement, Hector Aviles Castillo, coordinator for the zone, said that Oscar Flores Sanchez, head of the Attorney General's Office, had decided that, in order to carry out the plan, a larger number of aircraft would be used in the destruction flights, with the use of special herbicides, and that, at the same time, an inspection would be made of all sections in the shortest possible period of time.

Aviles Castillo explained that approximately 300 poppy, marihuana and mixed plantations have been detected to date, which will be fumigated within a few days; owing to the fact that, on 25 March, the deputy attorney general of justice, Samuel Alba Leyva, located in Mazatlan, will make an evaluation of the results accrued.

The Zone 06 coordinator added in his report that there will be 10 days of activity in the program, which will be spent to allow 10 helicopters to do the fumigation work, while an additional five machines and two small aircraft will carry out the general reconnaissance of all sections.

Aviles Castillo explained that these activities are in addition to the normal ones being performed by the personnel from the Attorney General's Office in the campaign, because there must be no letup in the battle to prevent the repetition of this type of illegal activity which is detrimental to mankind.

2909

CSO: 5330/74

MEXICO

BRIEFS

PLANE WITH MARIHUANA DOWNED--The marihuana seized 3 days ago from a Douglas DC-6 airplane which made a forced landing 23 kilometers south of Ciudad Juarez was to be sold among the Yankee underworld for \$10 billion, or 45 million pesos. The grass is of the very top quality, the so-called "gold of Colombia" type, and came from Bogota. It was brought from there in 300 bales containing a total of 7 tons by the pilot, John Patrick Donahue, of New York; the copilot, Brandz Russell, of Baltimore; and the Panamanian, Julian Nogueira. All three are "mules" and exclusively shippers. They were hired by the major traffickers of the United States and Colombia, and were to be paid a total of \$125,000 for the trip, which they began in the Bahama Islands. They loaded the drugs on a farm in Colombia, and were to arrive in Chihuahua, refueling on a deserted clandestine airstrip, and presumably continue on to New York. They said: "But we did not find the signals on the field in Chihuahua where we were supposed to land. We spent an hour and a half flying between Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua, and there was no signal. Our aviation gas gave out, and therefore we went down where we crashed." The case served to notify the authorities that, for some time, large, fabulous shipments of grass and other drugs have been arriving in the United States from Colombia via this border port; and that they refuel in the Chihuahua area and continue their course from there. Not a word could be gotten from them concerning those who hired them and who were the owners of the shipment. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 16 Mar 82 Sec B p 2] 2909

TRAFFICKING JAIL OFFICIAL SOUGHT--Toluca, Mexico, 16 March (OEM)--State Judicial Police agents from the state of Mexico are searching strenuously for the former head of the Tlalnepantla district jail, for being connected with the drug traffic as well as the sale of liquor while he was in charge of that jail. This morning, several members of the State Judicial Police appeared at the district jail to question various inmates who would know the whereabouts of Manuel Niembro Miranda who, according to accounts given by a friend of his, is at large in this town. But the Judicial Police are trying to find him in order to put him behind bars, since he had been trafficking with bottles of liquor inside the jail for 4 years. Manuel Niembro Miranda, who established a system of terrorism and extortion in the district jail of which he was head, was exploiting the inmates, by making them pay their weekly wages, amounting to 500 pesos per prisoner. The 370 inmates, many of whom enjoyed certain privileges, were paying a sum of 3,000 pesos in order to be able to have a prison block with television and be entitled to miss roll-call. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 17 Mar 82 Sec B p 12] 2909

MARIHUANA SHIPMENT BURNED--Nogales, Sonora, 19 March (PH)--Today, 35 kilograms of marihuana worth several thousand pesos were burned on the grounds of the Health Center. The drugs were turned over for destruction by the agency of the Federal Public Ministry. The burning of the grass was witnessed by the health authorities, headed by the institution's head, Dr Luis Cervantes Garcia, in accordance with the Health Code, to file the report which will be sent to the SSA [Secretariat of Health and Assistance] in Mexico City. When Dr Cervantes Garcia was questioned about the origin of the marihuana, he said that it had been seized in Nogales by Federal Judicial Police agents from Mr Jose Romero Cazares Mascareno. He added that, with the destruction of the 35 kilograms today, the agency of the Federal Public Ministry has made the fourth shipment this year to the institution for immediate incineration. He noted that this proves that the Federal Judicial Police action against the drug traffic is becoming increasingly efficient, with several persons arrested during the first months of the year. Once the confiscated drugs are in the possession of the health authorities, they are destroyed immediately, he claimed, remarking that this procedure will continue to be used so as not to confront any risks. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 20 Mar 82 Sec A p 17] 2909

TRAFFICKER CLAIMS TORTURE--Yesterday, Prisciliano Martinez Martinez made his preliminary statement in the third district court, having been accused by the agent of the Federal Public Ministry of a crime against health. This individual had for some time been engaged as a "mule", in other words, as a shipper of marihuana from the interior part of the country to the border. He later undertook the business on his own, with the aid of someone residing in the United States, to whom he was selling the aforementioned grass for \$250 per pound. When the Federal Judicial Police agents captured him in Miguel Aleman, this subject had just moved 45 kilograms, carrying a suitcase which contained traces. He claimed that it was for his personal use, and also for Juan Cardenas and his brother, Martin, who were with him at the time of his arrest. He told all this to the agent of the Federal Public Ministry, but denied it to the judge, claiming that he had been severely tortured for over 10 days, since the time of his arrest. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 11 Mar 82 Sec D p 4] 2909

WARDEN CHARGED WITH ESCAPE--The warden of the Reynosa jail, Leonel Garcia Olivares, is being held in the jail in this town, and action is being taken against him for the escape of prisoners. Yesterday, he made his preliminary statement in the second district court regarding the incident, denying that he participated in the escape of Jesus Carrillo Barraza, a drug trafficker acknowledged as the vice czar on the border. Members of the Federal Judicial Police succeeded in arresting this individual in Reynosa on Tuesday night, and immediately transferred him to this town in order to place him at the disposal of the pertinent judicial authorities. The second district judge issued a warrant for the arrest of Leonel Garcia Olivares, and it was executed on Tuesday night. The case of the escape of Jesus Carrillo Barraza had strong repercussions throughout the entire region, and there was talk that several prison officials had been involved in Carrillo Barraza's escape, and that several million pesos had been paid to allow him to flee. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 11 Mar 82 Sec D p 4] 2909

TRAFFICKER FOUND IN CUSTODY--Antonio Legaspi Quirarte, the felonious murderer and drug trafficker, fell into the hands of the State Judicial Police. Two agents from the entity commanded by Mr Hector Mario Varela, Brandy and Jaquez, visited the Social Rehabilitation Center [CERESO] and they were greatly surprised to see Tony among the inmates. They had been searching for him a long time, since 13 January 1978, when that individual shot Luis Vallina Rodriguez to death with a 45-caliber pistol. Since that date, Legaspi, who of course is a member of the family whose relatives have been involved in so much trouble, had been at large, fleeing and hiding. He finally entered the United States and went back to his old tricks there, becoming involved in drug trafficking. They arrested him and, after serving a sentence, he was sent to this town in an exchange of prisoners. It was not learned how long he had been in the CERESO, but he used a different name. And he would have stayed for a long time if Brandy and Jaquez had not recognized him. Legaspi said that, on 13 January 1978, in the El Capitan bar located on the highway leading to Casas Grandes, he had actually killed Luis Estrada Vallina, or Luis Vallina Hernandez, who was then 33 years old. They were presumably arguing over drugs; both the murderer and his victim were trafficking in drugs, and they also stole cars. At the time that Antonio shot Vallina, Alfonso Garcia Torres was with them. It was the latter who identified Legaspi as the murderer. Comdr Varela Mendoza noted that he had been sought since that time. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 13 Mar 82 Sec B p 2] 2909

COCAINE SHIPMENT SEIZED--Mexico City, 6 Apr (NOTIMEX)--A shipment of cocaine valued at 300 million pesos in the black market was intercepted today by federal agents stationed at Mexico City International Airport. Homer James Rios, an American, arrived here on Aeromexico Flight 420 from Venezuela. He was carrying 6 kilos 350 grams of pure cocaine and 22 doses of LSD in a false-bottom suitcase. The foreigner had made contact at the "OSTAL San Isidor" hotel in Lima, Peru, with a drug trafficker named "Mike" who gave him about 16 1/2 kilos of the narcotic. Together with a friend he identified as John Saxton, he attempted to travel from Lima to Mexico, but as they placed their baggage containing 10 kilos of pure cocaine on the baggage belt they saw they were to be inspected with the use of drug detecting dogs. They left the baggage which was subsequently found by Mexican authorities. The drug traffickers then proceeded to Chile and later to Venezuela by road. James Rios then boarded the Mexican airline only to be arrested by Mexican federal agents. [FL071400 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0440 GMT 7 Apr 82]

CSO: 5300/2259

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CRIME, INFLUX OF WEAPONS ATTRIBUTED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 21 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] Too much money chasing or trying to buy too few goods. Economists view this situation as the classical example of ammunition that fuels inflation.

What they say in effect is that artificially-created or real shortages cause the price of the needed product to move upwards constantly.

This even extends to price-controlled goods (like onions, potatoes and chickens) being sold openly and under the counter at black market prices when in short supply.

In simple language, it brings into play inborn crookedness and the larcenous streak in your friendly merchant, grocer or wayside vendor.

The motto enacted is to "make as much as possible--money-wise and customer-foolish--while the going is good and the stocks last."

Too much money on the loose leads to another type of painful inflation. It sets up the stage for the increase in crime--particularly violent robberies and street crimes.

This is the situation today in Trinidad and Tobago. Criminals are striking it rich preying on people walking around with a lot of oil dollars on their person, along with jewelry and other valuables.

Thriving business places and their bank-depositing couriers and messengers are prime targets for the money-hungry bandits.

Aggravated robberies, hold-ups, snatch-and-grab thefts, burglaries and muggings are being churned out at the alarming rate of an average four-plus crimes a day for the current year. No lack of productivity in this field with three months of 1982 not yet completed.

Crime statistics compiled by the Modus Operandi Bureau of the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) showed that 324 robberies were recorded up to mid-March.

What is particularly disturbing is the frequent use of firearms and knives in the carrying out of the robberies. Figures show that 232 of the 324 reports involved the use of guns or knives.

Guns were brought into play in 74 instances. Knife-toting bandits went into action on 158 terrifying jobs.

A picture of rapidly spiralling crime emerges from the robbery statistics of 1980-82. There were 760 reports for 1980, jumping by nearly 200 to 937 last year.

The pattern is consistent in gun-related robberies. This sector climbed by 100 from 245 in 1980 to 345 in 1981. Knife reports almost doubled during the same period from 197 in 1980 to 364 last year.

Nightmares

Knife-brandishing robberies for the two-and-a-half months of this year alone are fast approaching the overall 1980. It has reached 158--just 39 short of the 197 in 1980.

The existing situation begs the following questions:

Why the upsurge of violent economic crimes?

Where are the guns coming from since this is not supposed to be the Wild West where every creed and race enjoys an equal place to possess firearms freely?

How are the police faring in fighting and solving crimes?

Who are the people involved and or committing the crimes?

Answers or explanations to these queries entailed discussions with Police Commissioner Randolph Burroughs and other law enforcement officers.

Where and how are the criminals getting their arms? This opened up new vistas of illicit activities that is causing the police endless headaches and nightmarish dreams.

It has to do with the profitable and highly-dangerous indulgence in the drug trafficking trade. Both soft and hard drugs are involved...mainly marijuana and cocaine.

Drug traders are flooding the country with arms, mainly for use as a protective measure in their illegal operations.

A senior police official explained that the multi-million-dollar drug trade had a definite Venezuelan connection, with the neighbouring republic being used as a jump-off or transit point for drugs bound for Trinidad.

He said that the sea-faring suppliers "usually protect their stuff while being heavily armed. Having disposed of the cargo, they sell or leave their weapons with their local contacts."

The drug problem takes on new dimensions with open gang warfare in which several people have been killed and others shot or shot at.

Why the drug trade battles? It follows a pattern in most metropolitan countries. One is the question of territorial rights. Operators carve out certain turfs or jurisdictional areas. They will defend to their own death, and others, the intrusion of drug-supplying trespassers into their domain.

This explains in part how guns reach the criminal market or underworld. Other sources of supply are concentrated thefts from licensed and authorised fire-arms holders--not excluding the police and security guards.

There is another aspect to the drug-related gang warfare. It has to do with a type of robbery that cannot be reported to the police...stealing produce from marijuana plantations.

This has a sort of town-man syndrome. The officer explained: "Despite constant police activities and destruction of plantations, marijuana continues to be cultivated with loving and profitable, care.

"Some of the dealers from the bright lights and not accustomed to the sort of hard life in the forests wait until the crop is ready and move in to reap... this is where the trouble begins and bullets fly.

He added: 'Then again there is the natural inclination of pushers to hold back on payments to suppliers...that is dangerous business. Trouble also breaks out when the police intercept or manage to get hold of stocks through raids.

"The suppliers do not always accept this as a valid reason for non-payment and sometimes do not believe this really happened."

Crime in Trinidad and Tobago has become too big a problem to be left in the hands of the police. Crime is a national problem involving all the citizenry...whether as criminal, victim or potential witness. So whether you like it or not, you are involved.

Commissioner Burroughs is pleading for a crime concerned community and public support.

He was a bit stumped for an answer when I asked him "who is winning the crime war...the police or the criminals?"

Brutal Acts

I rephrased the question to inquire what percentage of crimes were being solved by the police. He declined a direct answer, stating that a single person may have committed scores of crimes in say 1980 and 1981 and not caught in 1982...so that the ratio solved at a particular time was not a good yardstick to gauge effectiveness.

This to my own thinking was another way of saying that the crooks are on top.

Mr. Burroughs said that the reason why the police was not receiving full support from the public was the constant portrayal of the police being involved in brutal acts.

He said this creates a lack of confidence in the police which was mostly unjustified. Every accusation against police officers, he said was investigated and appropriate action taken..."like every department everywhere there are good and bad...I would like the public to think of policemen as their friends."

Who are committing the crimes? Another officer said that repeaters or known criminals are mainly responsible, "but are allowed bail to continue their activities.

"We can object to bail, which we do...but we still operate under the legal system that a person is not guilty of an offence until proven in court.

"They usually chalk up a series of crimes...sometimes looking for money for their lawyers...and after convicted on offence...plead guilty to the others and get concurrent instead of consecutive sentences to prison. The hardened criminals take advantage of this position."

Violent economic crimes in Trinidad and Tobago in the main have nothing to do with deprivation. It is not a case of the poor and disadvantaged stealing from the rich to satisfy basic needs.

Victims of hold-ups come in all categories--labourers, salesmen, lawyers and even thieves.

Jobs are available in abundance even for the unskilled. Despite the availability of jobs, unemployment runs about 11 per cent of the 400,000-plus work force.

It is not really unemployment...it is just that young people are picking and choosing what type of work they want to do whether qualified or not for the tasks.

They are drawn into crime to satisfy their urge for easy money. It sometimes turns out to be a painful and hazardous occupation risking police bullets and prison.

Chances of being caught seem to diminish daily...so the muggers and hold-up men take a swing and hopefully come up with dollars and jewellery.

They find it less exhausting to rob a drunk or unsuspecting passerby than sweat it or even idle on a job for eight hours. It takes less than a minute to press a knife in the back of a victim and run away \$500 and a \$1,500 bangle.

Criminals are helped in their trade by the large amount of cash being carried around casually by ordinary folk.

Does crime really pay? Ask the criminals.

CSO: 5300/7539

EGYPT

OPIUM SMUGGLED FROM INDIA SEIZED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 19 Mar 82 p 2

[Text] Opium worth \$3 million was confiscated at Cairo Airport on Wednesday when police foiled an attempt to smuggle it into the country by an Egyptian smuggler coming from India for the first time, police sources said.

The opium was smuggled aboard an EgyptAir jet coming from Bombay. The smuggler was said to be an assistant of a big drug trafficker in the Batnia, the notorious den of drug dealers in Cairo. As a cover the smuggler was accompanied by his wife, the sources added.

The Police were tipped off that international smugglers who had contacts with drug dealers in the Batnia, had resumed their activities in smuggling narcotics into the country. They had set on devising new methods and changed their source from Pakistan to India, they said.

Information received by the police revealed that they had planned to smuggle a large amount of opium through an accomplice whom they had recently recruited. He was an antiquities dealer in Khan El Khalili who went to India to fetch the consignment.

When he returned he was arrested at Cairo Airport with the opium hidden in four suitcases. He admitted the attempt and reported to the police his accomplices.--GSS

CSO: 5300/5014

IRAN

BRIEFS

MARCH DRUG HAUL--Gendarmerie officials of Lorestan, Khorasan, Fars, Zahedan and Eastern Azarbayjan seized 6.37 kg of heroin and 51.616 kg of opium during the past week. [GF140547 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 30 Mar 82 p 2]

OPIUM SEIZED IN DARAB--Darab Revolution Guards Corps members have seized 2.6 kg of opium from one person. [GF140424 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 13 Apr 82]

CSO: 5300/5388

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

DAGGA SEIZED--Durban.--About 30 bags of dry dagga, worth several-thousand rand, were seized by the police early yesterday at a roadblock near Estcourt, Natal. The police set up a road block near the northern Natal town shortly after 2 am yesterday. They signalled down a light delivery van travelling from the coast towards Johannesburg. They searched the vehicle and found the dagga concealed in the back of the van. The two Black occupants of the vehicle were arrested. Police believe the dagga was cultivated in the Transkei and was due to be sold to the black market in Johannesburg. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 Mar 82 p 9]

CSO: 5300/5694

DENMARK

TWO TURKS ARRESTED IN LARGE HEROIN-SMUGGLING CASE

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 23 Mar 82 Sec II p 1

[Article by Anders Wiig]

[Text] Two Turkish drug gangsters tell a Danish court sitting with a jury about millions of kroner worth of smuggling.

In April of 1980, a lamp and souvenir dealer in the bazaar quarter of Istanbul was in such serious financial difficulties that he even contemplated committing suicide. A high rent and the lacking demand among tourists in connection with the rumors of devaluation had landed him in debt, so that he saw no way out for himself, his wife, and their two small children. This story was told by 31-year-old Omer Taskiran yesterday during a session of a court sitting with a jury in Copenhagen. That is why he smuggled 3 kilos of heroin into Denmark on 30 April 1980 and participated in the smuggling into the country of 4 kilos of heroin on 1 November.

This is also a story about how Turkish heroin turned into Austrian cut-glass pendants which are used for Turkish chandeliers sold in the bazaars of Istanbul. The rescuer of Taskiran was his former boss, a manufacturer of lamps, to whom he was apprenticed before starting his own shop. In April of 1980, the said manufacturer and his friend were in need of a courier to take 3 kilos of heroin to Copenhagen. Taskiran accepted the job as well as the offer of receiving 300,000 kroner of the 900,000 kroner which a gang of Turkish drug dealers was to pay for the heroin in Copenhagen.

Moved to Less Expensive Hotel

Together with an unsuspecting friend, and with the heroin hidden in the heater of the car, Taskiran started the trip to Denmark, was delayed by a snow storm for a couple of days in Austria, reached Copenhagen on 30 April, took a room at Hotel Mercur, moved to a less expensive hotel the next day, found the Turkish club in Viktoria Street, where he asked for the two fellow countrymen who were to receive the heroin.

They were Yilmaz Gunes, 36, a waiter and a sort of manager and adviser of the club as well as the owner of a tobacconist's shop, furthermore Ahmet Tokmak, 37, a laborer and dealer in Turkish meerschaum pipes. Gunez arrived a few minutes after Taskiran had asked for him, Taskiran stated yesterday. They drove to the hotel, where the smugglers pulled out the black package containing the heroin, put it in a bag with an old shirt on top of it, and gave it to Gunez. Taskiran had no more money but, the next day, received "pocket money" from Gunez. His co-accomplices in Turkey told him on the telephone to collect part payment of the 900,000 kroner, to collect the remainder of the money later on and to return home when all of the money had been collected.

Taskiran went to stay with his friends, the Senyus family in Hamburg. The police have arrested Ahmet Altan Senyus, 37, a highly educated businessman, attorney and economist, who has been charged with belonging to the gang of smugglers, which charge he totally denies. Taskiran himself maintains that his friend knew nothing about his shady business affairs, and that it was entirely out of friendliness that Senyus went with him to Copenhagen when he had to collect money. And it was a mere coincidence that they drove back to Turkey together in June.

Taskiran only succeeded in collecting 580,000 kroner. Part of the money he collected he spent on his stay. He invested 20,000 German mark in Senyus' business in Hamburg, 22,747 German mark were transferred from a bank account in Hamburg to his former employer in Istanbul. The remainder of the 580,000 kroner he cashed when leaving for home. On the way, he bought Austrian cut-glass pendants for his former boss's lamp production with part of the money. The outstanding 320,000 kroner from the deal in Copenhagen were, as far as he knew, subsequently transferred to Istanbul. He states that he himself got the 300,000 kroner out of it which were promised to him. His participation in the smuggling of another 4 kilos of heroin was not dealt with by the court yesterday.

What happened to the 3 kilos smuggled into the country on 30 April? Ahmet Tokmak told the court sitting with a jury about that. In the Turkish club, his fellow countryman Mehmet had stated that a quantity of heroin would be arriving in town. Tokmak could take that over from their joint acquaintance, Yilmaz Gunes. As his friend and partner in the import business of meerschaum pipes, Brian Hassig, would like to get hold of some heroin for resale, and as Hassig had a debt of 20,000 kroner, for which Tokmak had become surety, Tokmak concluded the deal. He did not have in mind his own profits, he told the public prosecutor, who strongly called this statement in question. Tokmak did, indeed, make 300,000 kroner on the deal.

He collected twice 1 kilo in a plastic bag from Gunes, the waiter, at his place of work, Dan Hotel. Hassig, who was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in the City Court of Copenhagen, received the heroin in several lots, partly at the Turkish club and partly at the home of Tokmak and paid 1.2 million kroner for it. The latter tied a rubber band around

the bundles of banknotes and gave 900,000 kroner, which he carried in his pocket, to Gunes and Taskiran, the smuggler.

He does not know what Gunes did with the last kilo of the heroin smuggled from Istanbul. O. Waage-Jensen, public prosecutor, wanted to know if he did not think of the terrible harm he would be causing the drug addicts. Tokmak answered: "I became aware of it when the second kilo was delivered and I saw how Brian looked when he himself used some of the heroin."

7262
CSO: 5300/2247

DENMARK

TURKISH GANG SENTENCED IN HEROIN SMUGGLING CASE

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 31 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Anders Wiig]

[Text] The high court dealt a hard blow when it sentenced a Turkish narcotics gang yesterday to prison terms ranging from 2 to 10 years in length for smuggling in 7 kilograms of heroin. The six members of the gang were sentenced to a total of 42 years in prison.

Lamp dealer Omar Taskiran, 31, received the maximum sentence under the law, 10 years in prison. The leader in Denmark, 37-year-old pipe dealer Ahmet Tokmak, was given 9 years. Both were involved in two smuggling episodes of 3 and 4 kg respectively. Tokmak was also sentenced for the sale of 300 grams of heroin from another "source." Waiter Yilmaz Gunes was given 7 years for receiving and selling 3 kg of heroin in May 1980 and his 22-year-old brother Altan was given 2 years for trying to help Taskiran get hold of the 4-kg shipment in November 1980. It was this shipment that the police seized en route from the Rodby ferry. The smuggler, Fethi Uzulmez, a 32-year-old factory worker from Nuremberg who brought the 4 kg of heroin into the country, was sentenced to 6 years in prison.

Finally, businessman Ahmet Altan Senyus of Hamburg was sentenced to 8 years in prison. Despite the flat denials made by him and the other accused men, the jury decided there was evidence that he had assisted in bringing in 4 kg.

The evidence against Senyus consisted entirely of telephone wiretaps and his connection with Taskiran. Among other things the latter had lived with Senyus for 6 weeks while he made several trips to Copenhagen to obtain money. When the evidence was being presented, both men claimed that Senyus believed these were legal money transactions. In a series of wiretapped phone conversations between the two men, the words heroin and narcotics were not mentioned--the word "materials" occurred in connection with shirt sewing. Otherwise, judging from the choice of words, the talks appeared to concern mainly the importation and manufacture of lamps for the existing and legal shop in Hamburg which the two men own jointly as well as a sudden lack of liquidity. In view of the sentence, these must be presumed to have been codes and circumlocutions. Senyus was sentenced for being one of the

"respectable" men who never touch drugs themselves but stand behind heroin smuggling and obtain money from it. This was substantiated in part by the fact that he was arrested in Taskiran's hotel room on the very evening when the gang was waiting for the 4 kilograms of heroin.

6578

CSO: 5300/2253

DENMARK

BRIEFS

DROP IN NARCOTICS DEATHS--In 1981, 148 Danish drug addicts died as a direct and immediate result of their habit. The mortality statistics were made available yesterday by the Copenhagen narcotics police, but the figure is for the entire country. In 1980, 165 narcotics deaths were noted and in 1979 the figure was 125. Detective superintendent Bent Hansen: "The figures are still terribly high, but we can hope that the decline in relation to 1980 indicates a decline in the number of addicts. And we can hope that preventive efforts in the schools and elsewhere have had an effect." [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 31 Mar 82 p 3] 6578

CSO: 5300/2253

ICELAND

MORPHINE REMOVED FROM LIFE BOATS; OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 27 Feb 82 p 46

[Text] Officials of the National Nautical Board have recently ordered morphine and other habit-forming drugs to be removed from the Icelandic fleet's rubber life boats. Other drugs, which are not habit-forming, will continue to be kept on the boats.

"Most doctors have been quite opposed to removing morphine and other addictive drugs from the rubber lifeboats," said Hjalmar R. Bardarson, head of the National Nautical Board, in an interview with MORGUNBLADID. "But I had a study done on how frequently it has been necessary to use morphine and other strong addictive drugs in nautical accidents off our coasts. The results showed that most probably it would never be necessary to use these drugs. When this became clear, I thought it was obvious that morphine should be removed from the boats, since people have always broken into them to steal the morphine and other addictive drugs. I believe that it is more important for the boats to go out in one piece than to run the risk that, because of vandalism, they won't work when we need them."

Bardarson said further, "It made my decision easier when Olafur Olafsson, the surgeon general, supported me in this matter. Then we had the National Nautical Board go ahead and remove the morphine and other addictive drugs from the rubber lifeboats."

The National Nautical Board has recently printed a pamphlet for use with the rubber lifeboats. This pamphlet is the first in a series of specialized publications the National Nautical Board intends to publish. The pamphlet explains the use of the boats in detail, including their contents. These National Nautical Board pamphlets will be packaged in watertight wrappers and installed in the rubber lifeboats so that people will have instructions on board when they need them.

9584

CSO: 5300/2208

ITALY

FOUR HEROIN SMUGGLERS ARRESTED IN BARI

Bari LAGAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO in Italian 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ettore Giorgio Poti]

[Text] Brindisi--Another heavy blow has been dealt to the drug trade, that squalid market which yields such high profits and reaps so many victims. Four drug dealers were caught in a trap set by agents of the Finance Guard of Rome. It is not known whether they are big or medium-sized fish, but they are certainly not small ones: this is clear both from their records, which place them fairly high up in the underworld, and from the large value (about 1 billion lire at current prices) of the merchandise they were carrying.

Three of the four who were arrested are from Andria, and belong to that Bari underworld which has long since made a "qualitative leap" from cigarette smuggling to the lucrative but abominable drug trade, passing quickly and almost inexorably from light drugs to heavy ones.

Deputy Prosecutor Dr. Di Bonito has rightly said that the drug trade has been taking root and spreading in Puglia, too. This prediction was based on two simple observations: the growing volume of traffic in the port of Brindisi and the strategic position of Puglia (especially the strip from Brindisi to Bari), which is almost a crossroads along the way to the various destinations of drugs. Vigilance has been increased and perfected in recent years, of course, with better training for agents and better methods.

The results of the operation in Brindisi late Sunday night were undoubtedly important. The news has just come out now. Officers and deputy officers of the central nucleus of the fiscal police of Rome's Finance Guard were responsible for the action. They came to Brindisi on purpose, which leads one to believe that this operation was part of a much larger one that may have already led to important developments and have more in store. This may mean that a determined offensive is underway against a vast national and international organization.

The four men who were arrested were Giovanni Moschetta, 34 years old, and Antonio Musci, 58 years old, both born and residing in Andria (the former in the San Valentino district, the latter at 74 Via De Gilio); Sabino Conversano, 32 years old, born in Andria and residing in Trani (14 Via C. Colombo); and Mauro Rocchetti, 31 years old, a Roman residing at 1 Via Cerisai. False documents were found in the possession of Moschetta and Rocchetti: the former

had an identity card bearing the name Vella, the latter a passport in the name of Conversano.

The Roman fiscal police agents evidently knew at least three of the four men well. Sunday night they stationed themselves opposite the maritime station and watched from a distance as the passengers got off the "Eolos," a ferry coming from Patras and Corfu. They spotted the three men they were looking for, and waited while they approached a fourth awaiting them on the pier. The four men then walked out of the maritime station together. As soon as they left the customs area the fiscal police went into action, blocking their way and leading them straight to the local headquarters of the Finance Guard. The four men were carrying two suitcases.

They expressed surprise and annoyance. "We have nothing to hide," they said. But the fiscal police knew what they were looking for and where to look for it. They found four large plastic envelopes containing 2.68 kg of very pure and highly concentrated heroin carefully hidden in a false bottom of one of the suitcases. Two of the envelopes were even marked "quality brand" and "Doume Uoglabé" and bore various Asian hieroglyphics. Considering the fact that every gram of this very pure and concentrated heroin yields many doses--each worth 60,000-70,000 lire--when mixed with various substances, the real market value of the confiscated drugs was about 1 billion lire. When the heroin was found the four men, who could no longer deny their guilt, fell silent.

9855

CSO: 5300/2242

NETHERLANDS

PROGRESS, PROBLEMS IN AMSTERDAM DRUG SCENE

Brussels LA LIBRE BELGIQUE in French 23 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] The municipality of Amsterdam has decided to asphalt the Zeedijk, one of the "hot" streets in that Dutch port city, to prevent illicit heroin peddlers from hiding their inventory under the loose cobblestones. The city has already barricaded doors and windows in cafes where the drug trade was flourishing, and after the asphaltting is finished, it will demolish others. A luxury hotel will then be built on the cleared site. The end of the Zeedijk, where the arrival of heroin used to be announced in ideograms on the shopwindows of Chinese merchants, will no doubt mark the end of an era.

It was 10 years ago that heroin made its mass entry into Amsterdam. But it is crime, the corollary of drugs, rather than the drug itself, which Dutch authorities are trying hard to contain. And cleaning up the Zeedijk, although not yet completed, should help in that effort. The first result: the heroin trade has spread to other corners of the city. Wim Polak, Amsterdam's top health official, says: "What else can we do? In any case, foreign tourists will have to search for 2 or 3 days before they find suppliers. At least we will have accomplished that much."

In recent years, according to Dutch police, Amsterdam has lost its title as the capital of easy heroin to Berlin, Rome, and Frankfurt.

But there are still addicts. In The Hague, three ministries (justice, health, and culture) have set up a joint force to help the addicts. That group is not interested in the unknown number of "weekend users," who stock up on heroin on Friday evenings and seem to avoid the trap of addiction.

The help is concentrated on the true drug addicts who have taken refuge in a hard drug because they can't stand themselves or because they reject their environment: society. Those responsible for the policy of helping addicts point out: "We can't change society. But we are trying to equip our clients better with psychological and social support."

Over 100 consultation and assistance offices are operating throughout the country. But it is still necessary to attract the clientele, which by definition is suspicious or rebellious against initiatives taken by "society." Methadone is massively used by the city of Amsterdam, which sends dispensary buses to neighborhoods frequented by addicts, and it is the bait used in fishing for drug addicts in distress.

Methadone is a medicine that allows the heroin addict to escape the terrible suffering of withdrawal, although it does not provide the euphoria supplied by the real drug. When they cannot afford heroin at 200 guilders (about 3,500 Belgian francs per gram)--and big users take more than a gram a day--some drug addicts obtain a prescription for methadone at one of the public dispensaries. Each dose of methadone costs the authorities about as much as a glass of beer, and clients are required to consume it on the spot to keep them from trafficking in it.

Nearly 3,000 addicts are registered at the methadone dispensaries, where every effort is made to persuade them to undergo detoxification. The poor results obtained to date have triggered criticism of the system and of the purity of intention on the part of the authorities, who are accused of "buying the tranquillity of the middle class."

Assistant Mayor Polak admits: "It cannot be denied that if he is calmed by methadone, the addict is going to steal less to buy heroin. But our real objective is detoxification. After all, we did succeed in conquering tuberculosis."

Treatment centers such as the Jellinek detoxify their patients in 15 days under strict supervision before preparing them to face the "hard realities of existence."

The apprenticeship begins with punctuality and living in community with other former addicts. The residents, apparently satisfied with the experience, say: "We learn to put up with each other and also to write job application letters."

To ease the shock of returning to ordinary life, the treatment center is located downtown, and outings are organized. But the comparison is a discouraging one between artificial paradises and the unemployment and material and emotional miseries of daily life. One of the patients says: "I have never experienced anything more wonderful than morphine. After that, reality is hard to take."

11798
CSO: 5300/2249

TURKEY

BRIEFS

ISTANBUL HEROIN SEIZURE--Istanbul, 6 Apr (AA)--Customs officials at Istanbul's Yesilkoy Airport seized 1 kilogram of heroin hidden in a carton of foreign cigarettes which two Israeli citizens tried to take with them on a flight to Athens. The Israelis caught were identified as Semadar Dalal and Rachel Jan. The two claimed they were merely carriers for a certain Yossef Gimati, for whom police issued a warrant of arrest, Istanbul police said. [Text]
[TA061541 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1520 GMT 6 Apr 82]

CSO: 5300/5385

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